

ABRAM HATCH, PERMELIA  
JANE LOTT HATCH AND  
RUTH WOOLLEY HATCH

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Abram Hatch, first stake president of Wasatch Stake, was a grandson of a Revolutionary War veteran, Jeremiah Hatch, who came to Plymouth Rock in 1760. His mother died while he was a boy, and his father died in 1841. Abram, with his two brothers and two sisters, Jeremiah, Lorenzo, Adeline and Elizabeth, moved to Illinois to live with grandparents. The children were left considerable money by their father, but it was entrusted to an uncle who used it for himself, leaving the youngsters to do for themselves. Abram had always desired an education, but it was not possible for him to obtain it. When his grandparents died he became a cabin boy on a Mississippi River boat, and later cut cordwood for a living. He worked as an apprentice in a store and learned merchandising. He

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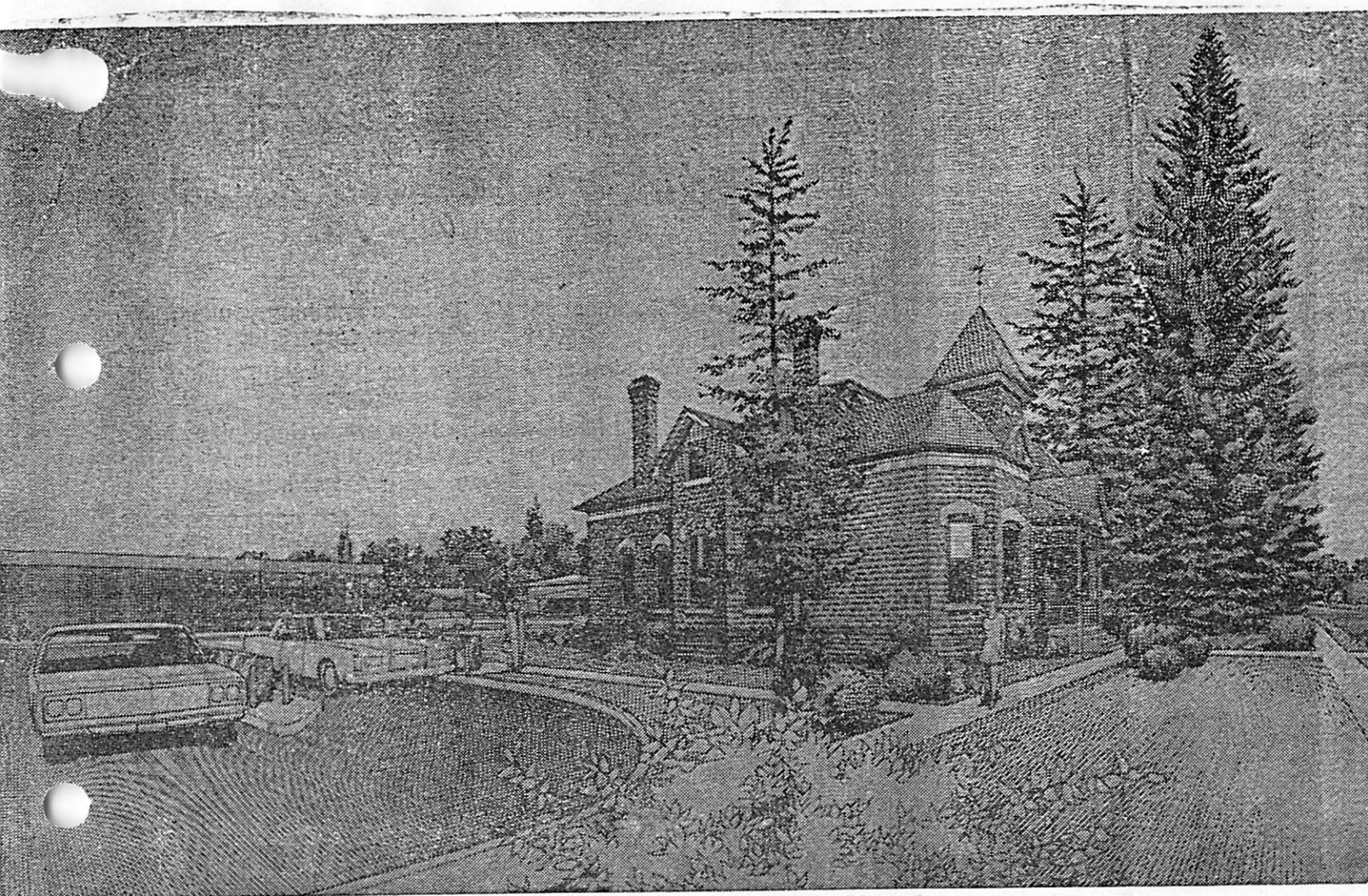
HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

came to Utah in 1850, and was married to Permelia Lott in Lehi in 1852. They built a cabin by Utah Lake and started a farm and small merchandise business in Lehi. He also hauled freight and brought companies of immigrants back to Utah, making 11 trips across the plains. In 1861 he was called on a mission to England, leaving his wife and youngsters at home. His wife managed the farm, store and also ran freight teams to the Missouri River to obtain the needed supplies. She sold provisions to Johnston's Army. When her husband's mission was completed she was able to send him \$10,000 in gold dust to tour Europe and return home. He used most of the money to purchase merchandise enroute home. He bought a threshing machine, the first to come to Utah, and also stocks for the store. Two years after his return he was called by President Brigham Young to move to Heber and serve as bishop of the ward. He later became the first stake president and served 33 years in that position. Active in civic affairs, he was probate judge six years and served in the territorial legislature 23 years, authoring many worthwhile pieces of legislation. He also established a fine merchandising business in Heber and was known as a farmer and banker. His first home in Heber was built on the corner of First North and Main. He later built a large sandstone home east of his mercantile business. His first wife died at the age of 48 and was buried according to her wishes, in Lehi, by the graves of two small sons. He married Ruth Woolley in 1882. She was then 25 years old, and bore him six children, four daughters and two sons. She was a lovely, talented young lady, with a fine singing voice, and was a great help to him as he grew older. He died in Heber on December 2, 1911, and was buried in Heber City Cemetery. It was his wish that he be buried in the county he had helped build and where he had lived so long. 395



Abram Hatch





# Zions First National to Remodel Hatch Home

Plans for restoring the old Abram Hatch house in Heber and using it as a Zions First National Bank office have been announced by Roy W. Simmons, President, and C. James Norton, Heber bank manager.

Purchase of the house and land ended speculation about the site's future. The house was recently designated by the Governor's Committee on Historical Sites for inclusion in the State's Historical Register. The purchase was hailed by Zions Bank officials and preservationists alike as the only practical means of saving the home from ruin or destruction.

**THE BLOCK ON WHICH** the Hatch house stands has been under study for some time as a site for a new shopping center for Heber Valley. Zions Bank officials contracted with shopping center developers for a spot in the center mall area for a bank office and the site allotted them was the one on which the Hatch home stands.

Bank officials were reluctant to demolish the house, however, and with the developers offered the structure free to anyone who wished to move it to another site. Zions Bank even offered to finance the cost of the move. This plan failed when a prospective mover found

that the house weighs 250 tons — well over the moveable weight. Two alternatives then remained: demolish the home in favor of a modern building, or remodel it for bank use. After careful study bank personnel concluded they would restore and remodel the structure.

**ASIDE FROM ITS SPLEN-** did nineteenth century architecture, the Abram Hatch home is a landmark in Heber Valley. Its builder, Abram Hatch, was a prominent early resident. He was one of the first bishops of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Heber, and was the one who first brought trade and industry to the valley.

One of his enterprises, A. Hatch & Co., served as the valley's first "bank", as well as being a general store and the town's commercial focal point for many years. Mr. Hatch used to accept money and valuables of local citizens for protection in the store's safe over periods of time. The business, incidentally, still survives today and is known informally as the "Heber Exchange".

**MR. HATCH BUILT THE** home on the corner of Center Street and First East in about 1892, using the best masonry

and woodworking methods then available in Heber. Cost of building another house exactly like it today has been estimated in excess of \$250,000.

After the death of Mr. Hatch's widow, the house passed from one owner to another, and at one point was converted to apartments. Eventually the exterior fell into disrepair, the basic structure and interior of the house if well preserved.

In renovating the house for use as a bank, Zions First National officials have indicated they will try wherever possible to maintain the original beauty and workmanship, even down to woodwork details inside. When completed the house will continue to be a point of historical interest as well as a banking office for Heber Valley residents.

**THE IDEA OF RENOVAT-** ing the house is somewhat unique in banking circles, running counter to most present-day trends for modern-looking buildings as bank offices. However, bank personnel say that using the old home rather than a new building will not affect the speed and efficiency of their banking operations. They are happy, they say, to be able to contribute to the preservation of a historical landmark.

**ARCHITECT'S CONCEPT—** The pioneer Abram Hatch Mansion in Heber City has been purchased by Zions First National Bank and will be renovated into

their Heber City office. The pioneer sandstone structure is located on the East Corner of First East Center and will be a part of new shopping complex.





William and his wife were the parents of 10 children: William Murdock, Nymphas, Coridan, Hattie Josephine, Frederick E., Esther M., Alva M., Joseph E., Reed H., Clyde C. and Eunice L. Hanks.

### ANNA S. DANIELSON HANSEN

Anna S. Danielson Hansen was born January 11, 1833, at Naversta, Bohus County, Sweden. She was the daughter of Daniel Erickson and Lena Anderson Erickson. Her husband, Anders Hansen, was born in Sweden, May 11, 1835. They were married in 1859. In the first two years of their marriage two boys were born to them, but the oldest died in infancy.

Anna was baptized January 2, 1862, in a frozen stream. On June 19 of that year she gave birth to a baby girl, Augusta.

On May 31, 1866, the family started for America in a sailing vessel. They were 52 days on the water, during which time their second son became sick and died. He was buried at sea. After landing in America they started their journey westward. Anna, with many others, walked most of the way across the plains. They came by ox team in Captain Nebeker's company. Anders waded the Platt River, helping to get the wagons across, and caught cold. He later died from mountain fever and was buried in Wyoming. Anna came on alone with her little girl, arriving in Salt Lake September 29, 1866.

She later became acquainted with Olaus T. Nilsson, who had come west in the same company. They were married in 1868. To this union were born four children. They moved to Heber in 1875. Anna wove carpets and cloth for her family's clothing. She was a kind, loving person and respected by all who knew her. She died April 22, 1905, at the age of 73. She was buried in Heber City.

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### ABRAM HATCH

I was born in Heber City, Utah, September 8, 1879. My parents were Joseph and Sarah Jane Clyde Hatch. Mother bore eight children, six sons and two daughters. She died at the age of 50, and father was killed in an auto wreck when he was near his eightieth year.



On my seventh birthday father gave me a small printing press which he purchased on one of his trips east, where he made bi-annual trips with trainloads of fat beef cattle from our Colorado, Utah and Wyoming ranch for the eastern markets at Omaha or Chicago. The press would print a form 3 1/2 x 5 inches and was of sufficient capacity to print letter heads and reasonably large envelope forms. Mother was my banker and in the three years between seven and ten I saved \$35 (present purchasing power about \$200) and bought the hand press on which I later printed the Heber Herald, a 4-page 9 x 12-inch weekly newspaper with a circulation of 300 copies, and continent-wide for the subscription list. There were three pages of hand-set type and one page of advertising that brought in \$6 a week, or near \$300 yearly. But when high school time came the entire staff of the Herald (consisting of a boy of 13 years) was drafted and the Herald ceased publication.

I was editor, manager, typo and the necessary newspaper devil. When the entire staff was stalled by parental demands, the Herald had no chance but to fade out. Details of its life and death struggles and accomplishments are past history, as detailed by J. Cecil Alter in his books, "Early Utah Journalism." Utah State Historical Society, Salt Lake City, 1938. Pages 83 to 87, inclusive.

I entered the Heber High School, consisting of one room, one teacher, and one dozen assorted students. September, 1892, the Preparatory School at the University of Utah, September, 1896.

I left the Heber Brass Band as secretary, librarian and one of the musicians after a period of ten years.

In 1897 I entered the A.C.U. as the

